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BOROUGH OF BACUP



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

OF THE

BOROUGH OF BACUP

1956



H E A L T H   C O M M I T T E E

1956 - 1957.

HIS WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MRS. A. RHODES, J.P.

(ex-officio)

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR J. H. HARGREAVES

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR A. LAMBERT:

COMMITTEE:

Alderman F. Haworth, J.P.

Alderman W. Marshall, J.P.

Councillor A. Lord, J.P.

Councillor J. Stevenson.

Councillor R. Davies.

Councillor E. Sanderson.

Councillor J. B. Walley.

Councillor T. E. East.

Councillor A. P. Beaumont.

Councillor H. Hocking.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health

Chief Public Health Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector

Pupil Public Health Inspector

Clerks

G. Fyfe, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

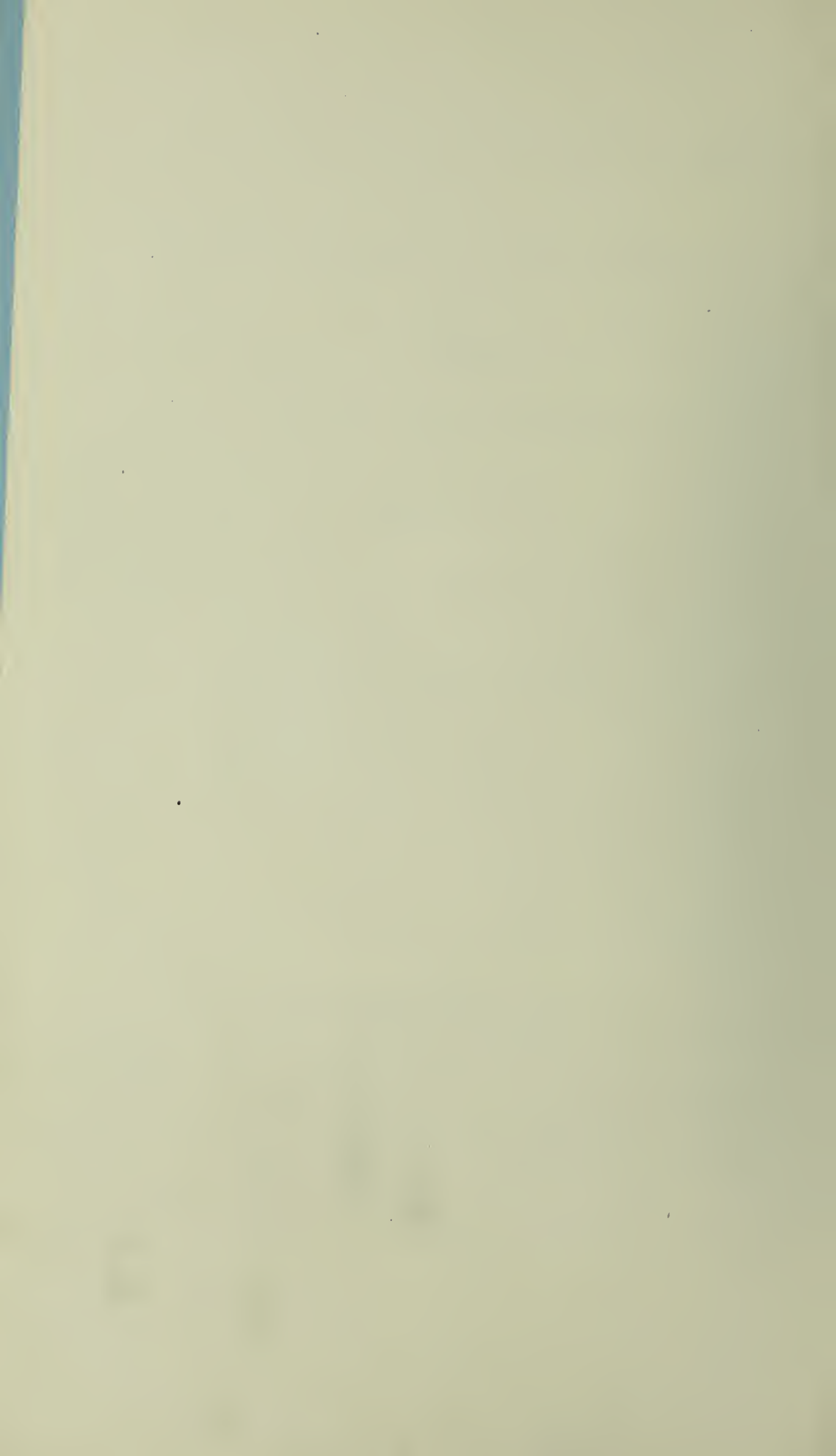
R. Haworth, M.A.P.H.I.

J. A. Lofthouse, M.A.P.H.I.

E. Sutcliffe.

Mrs. D. M. Simpson.

Mrs. M. Taylor.



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Stubbylee Hall,

BACUP.

Lancs.

July, 1957.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of Bacup.

Mr. Mayor, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1956.

Once again I have decided, with the exception of a general observation to introduce my comments at appropriate places within the text of the report. The year has not been characterised by any major development or occurrence and much of my thoughts have been concerned, as usual, with housing and its impact upon health.

My thanks are again due to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee. Their interest and their understanding of the many problems are much appreciated.

To the staff of the Health Department and in particular to Mr. Haworth, the Chief Public Health Inspector, I offer my gratitude for their ever present willingness to help in every possible way.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

G. FYFE.

Medical Officer of Health.



# SECTION I

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

### SUMMARY OF STATISTICS - 1956.

Area (Acres)	6,121
Population (Estimated mid-1956)	18,190
Population (Census 1951)	18,374
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)	5,964
Number of Inhabited Houses (1956)	6,754
Rateable Value	£142,097
Sum represented by a penny rate	£545

	Male	Female	Total	
LIVE BIRTHS				
Legitimate	143	127	270	Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 estimated population .. 16.
Illegitimate	13	14	27	
	—	—	—	
	156	141	297	
	—	—	—	
STILLBIRTHS	8	3	11	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. 36
DEATHS	149	129	278	Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 estimated population .. 15.3

### DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	0
Maternal Mortality Rate	NIL

### INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year of age :-

Male	Female	Total
7	5	12

Death rate of infants under one year of age :-

All infants per 1,000 live births	40
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	41
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	37

### DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED DISEASES

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population
Cardio-Vascular Diseases	156	8.6
Cancer	38	2.03
Tuberculosis	4	0.21

## COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

### Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population (mid-1956) was 18,190 which is 184 below the census figure of April, 1951.

The actual number of live births registered in Bacup in 1956 was 297, against a crude birth rate of 16.3 per 1,000 of the population, as against 294 births and a rate of 16.1 for the previous year.

The 27 illegitimate births registered in 1956 represent 9.09% of the total live births, compared with 8.5% in 1955.

### Deaths

Table I, Appendix A, gives the causes of deaths occurring in the Borough of Bacup during the year 1956. Total deaths show a slight increase, with 278 registered as against 265 in 1955, the comparative crude death rates being 15.3 and 14.5 respectively. Crude death rates are shown in Table IV, Appendix A.

The relative importance of the principal causes of death is shown in the following table :-

Cause of death	1956	
	No. of deaths	Percentage of total deaths
Heart Disease	100	35.9
Cancer	37	13.3
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	46	16.5
Bronchitis	12	4.3
Violence (including suicide and road traffic accidents)	16	5.7
Influenza, Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	11	3.9
Other circulatory diseases	12	4.3
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4	1.4

It will be seen that heart disease, cancer and cerebral haemorrhage are still the three most common causes of death. The number of deaths from bronchitis was less than that of the previous year.

There were 9 deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus. There were 8 males and 1 female.

### Maternal Mortality

Table IV, Appendix A, shows that the maternal mortality rate has decreased markedly in the Borough within the last decade. During 1956, no deaths occurred in Bacup.

### Infant Mortality

There were twelve deaths of infants under one year of age in 1956, equivalent to a mortality rate of 40 per 1,000 live births, compared with eight deaths and a rate of 27 in 1955. The corresponding figure for England and Wales in 1956 was 23.



The infant mortality rate has always been considered to be a good indication of the social conditions of the area. Where, however, the number concerned are small, fluctuations of no great significance are apt to occur in the annual infant death rate, and the progress made can be best judged from a consideration of the quinquennial mortality rates as shown in Table IV. Comparative figures for the whole of the Administrative County are also given in this Table.

#### Neo-Natal Mortality and Stillbirths

Neo-natal period is the term used to indicate the first four weeks of an infants life. It will be seen from Table II, Appendix A, that of the twelve infants who died under the age of one year, seven of these i.e. 58% died in the first four weeks of life. This represents a neo-natal mortality rate of 24 per 1,000 live births. Table III shows that of the seven neo-natal deaths four occurred within one day of birth.

Stillbirths during the year totalled eleven, representing a stillbirth rate of 36 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. Amongst the factors responsible for stillbirths and deaths in the first month after birth, the nutrition and health of the mother during pregnancy are now generally regarded as the most important. Much of this wastage could be prevented by improved ante-natal care, and by further research into the, as yet, little known causes of prematurity and congenital abnormalities.

#### Comparative Tables

Table IV gives the mean rates over periods of five years from 1900 - 1954 relative to live births and crude deaths in Bacup. It should be understood that there are certain statistical fallacies attached to such comparisons. For example, the trend of the crude death rate over a period of years for the same town can only be regarded as a true index of local conditions if the age and sex structure of the population has not altered.

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### Chief Occupations

The shoe and slipper trades and cotton manufacturing provide the chief occupations in the Borough, but light engineering and quarrying also give employment to a number of people in the district. The country is hilly and there are many scattered hill farms with small dairy herds.

#### Housing

The hilly nature of the district has led in the past to the building of many back-to-back, back-to-land and basement dwellings, and the prevalence of such a large proportion of these types of houses, which to-day cannot generally speaking be regarded as of a satisfactory standard, has created a difficult problem.

During 1956, the building of new houses proceeded but the progress was rather slow owing to financial costs. Several schemes, are, however, in the process of development.

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## SECTION II

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Any review of the general provision of health services for the area should of necessity cover all three branches of the National Health Services. Lack of space, however, precludes more than a brief mention of two of these, namely, the General Medical Practitioner (and dental etc.,) Services, and the Hospital and Specialist Services, so that this section will be confined mainly to a review of the health services provided by the Local Health Authority, i.e. by the Lancashire County Council.

Certain of these local services were, prior to 5th July, 1948, the responsibility of the Borough Council and it is realised that your own Health Committee (and indeed the Council as a whole) are still deeply interested in the personal health services provided for the inhabitants of the town. The day-to-day administration of these services is now the responsibility of Divisional Health Committee No. 13, on which the Bacup Borough Council is represented.

The environmental health services are, of course, still under your own control, but, as your Medical Officer of Health is also Divisional Medical Officer, co-ordination locally of the whole of the Public Health Service is assured.

#### Notification of Births

It is a requirement of Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936 that every birth shall be notified to the Medical Officer of Health of the Welfare Authority for the area in which the birth takes place. Since the National Health Service Act, 1946 came into operation, arrangements have been made for every birth notification to be sent to the Divisional Medical Officer, as this method greatly facilitates the prompt visiting of new-born infants and their mothers by the health visitors in the area. During 1956 there were 297 births and 11 stillbirths registered as belonging to mothers normally resident in Bacup.

#### Ante-Natal Clinic

During 1956 weekly ante-natal sessions were held at the Bacup Clinic and were attended each week by the local Midwives and a Health Visitor, while Dr. Deeny, Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, attended every second week. The total attendance made by expectant mothers was somewhat higher than the figure for 1955.

Facilities are available for specimens of blood to be taken from expectant mothers at the ante-natal clinic. Routine blood grouping, haemoglobin estimation, listing for the Rh. factor and the Wasserman reaction are carried out on all new cases, and copies of the reports are sent to the general practitioners.

The following table gives a summary of the attendances during 1956 :-

ATTENDANCES AT  
BACUP ANTE-NATAL CLINIC DURING 1956.

Number of sessions during year	Number of individual women attending during year	Number of attendance at Sessions conducted by :-			
		Consultants	A.D.M.O's	Midwives Health Visitors etc.	Total
50	163	-	233	275	508



## Domiciliary Midwifery Service

During the year the domiciliary midwives attended live and stillbirths.

All county midwives in practice in Bacup are qualified to administer analgesia and in 1956 analgesia was administered in the home of 68.8% of the domiciliary confinements.

The services of emergency obstetrical units are available from several hospitals in the neighbourhood, the nearest unit being stationed at Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, Burnley. The essential role of these units is to provide a resuscitation of domiciliary patients suffering from shock and too ill to withstand the journey to hospital. Detailed figures of the work done by the Bacup midwives are given in the following table :-

WORK CARRIED OUT BY  
L.C.C. MIDWIVES IN BACUP AREA DURING 1956.

Number of midwives	Total live and still births and miscarriages attended		Cases in which analgesia administered	Visits Paid				Total
	As midwife	As maternity nurse		Ante-natal	Delivery	Puerperium	Post-natal	
2	121	14	93	506	354	2163	2	3025

## Child Welfare Centre

A weekly welfare session was held at the Bacup Clinic throughout the year. The total number of attendances made by children amounted to 3529 this being 8 more than in 1955.

The number of individual children attending however, was 507 as compared with 525 in the previous year. The table below shows that increasing attendances in recent years have been mainly due to increases in the numbers of older children attending. This trend is welcome.

ATTENDANCES AT BACUP WELFARE CENTRE  
ALL SESSIONS (INCLUDING DOCTOR'S SESSIONS)

Year	No. of sessions during year	Number of individual children attending at ages				Number of attendances by children at ages			
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-4 years	Total	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-4 years	Total
1951	51	260	61	102	423	2272	370	486	3128
1952	53	273	71	128	472	2301	387	434	3122
1953	52	297	44	125	466	2912	478	549	3939
1954	52	149	154	190	493	2677	584	583	3844
1955	51	168	143	214	525	2411	472	638	3521
1956	51	164	137	206	507	2346	482	701	3529

## Health Visiting Service

During the year health visitors made 3501 individual visits to 1036 houses.

The health visitors also carry out the duties of school nurses, and further information on the extent of their work will be found in the following table :-

### WORK CARRIED OUT BY HEALTH VISITORS IN BACUP

Number of individual visits		Number of homes visited	Number of school clinics attended	Number of maternity and child welfare sessions attended	Number of other sessions
1951	6484	3545	197	97	60
1952	6717	4155	206	84	65
1953	6565	3854	164	108	84
1954	5392	1389	186	123	223
1955	5547	1307	201	140	134
1956	3501	1036	323	162	65

## Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox continue to be practised regularly, and parents have the choice of having this protection for their children carried out either by their own doctor or at the Rochdale Road Clinic. Every endeavour is made by the medical and nursing staff to persuade parents to give their consent to these very necessary and valuable preventive measures.

It is pleasing to report that the number of children in the most important age group (so far as immunisation is concerned) i.e. those children below the age of one year, who were given protection, rose from 47 to 101 during the year.

### NUMBER OF IMMUNISATIONS PERFORMED IN BACUP

Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the period									Reinforcements			
Age at final injections									Age group			
0- yrs.	1- yrs.	2- yrs.	3- yrs.	4- yrs.	Total under 5 yrs.	5- yrs.	10- yrs.	Total 5-14 yrs.	0- yrs.	5- yrs.	10- yrs.	Total 0-14 yrs.
1956												
101	48	21	6	8	184	20	11	31	64	215	149	428
1955												
47	57	37	16	10	167	38	6	44	51	165	138	354
1954												
55	87	65	11	15	233	29	21	50	64	15	385	464
1953												
81	58	10	6	9	164	17	6	23	59	259	166	484
1952												
112	89	22	13	15	251	47	6	53	29	176	144	449
1951												
54	160	16	5	4	239	25	-	23	49	182	158	389
1950												
22	125	22	7	4	180	11	1	12	-	83	-	83



# NUMBER OF VACCINATIONS PERFORMED IN BACUP

PRIMARY VACCINATIONS						RE-VACCINATIONS				
Age in years						Age in years				
	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	Total	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	Total
1956	44	17	15	3	79	--	--	--	43	43
1955	56	22	3	1	82	--	--	1	39	40
1954	35	13	1	9	58	--	--	--	27	27
1953	44	25	29	81	179	1	3	31	222	257
1952	112	408	1506	1330	3356	3	12	166	1245	1426
1951	37	17	8	8	70	--	--	--	46	46
1950	19	13	1	10	43	3	1	--	37	41

## Home Nursing

During the year under review the three Bacup nurses attended 330 new cases. The total number of visits amounted to 13,929 showing a substantial rise over the 1955 figure.

Nurses continue to issue articles of nursing equipment as required, free and on loan. Arrangements are in force whereby in cases requiring immediate nursing attention on leaving hospital a message is passed by telephone to the nurse concerned.

Further analysis of their work will be found in the following table :-

WORK CARRIED OUT BY  
DISTRICT NURSES IN BACUP - 1956

On Books 31st Dec., 1955.	CASES ATTENDED		Remaining on books 31st Dec., 1956.	VISITS MADE		
	New Cases attended 1956.	Cases completed 1956.		Routine	Casual	Total
103	330	345	82	13,735	194	13,929

## Home Help Service

Applicants are required to contribute towards the cost of this service according to the financial circumstances of the household, but most old age pensioners are given this service free of charge.

Every effort is made to encourage the spirit of voluntary service amongst relatives and neighbours. The following table summarises the work done in 1956 and provides a comparison with the previous years. It also shows that the service, which has expanded by leaps and bounds during recent years, is now reaching its limit under present conditions. This is general within Health Division No. 13. Recruitment has always been difficult.

# NUMBER OF FAMILIES ASSISTED IN BACUP

	1956.	1955.	1954.	1953.	1952.
1. Confinement at home	2	6	7	5	3
2. Confinement away from home	0	0	0	0	1
3. Tuberculosis	2	2	5	2	0
4. Sickness other than tuberculosis	19	28	38	6	7
5. Old age and infirmity	110	97	61	76	42
	—	—	—	—	—
	133	133	111	89	53
	—	—	—	—	—

## Prevention of illness, care and after-care

The most valuable form of health education is undoubtedly that of a personal and informal nature such as is carried out by all members of the Health Services in the course of their day-to-day duties. In this field the health visitor and the school doctor have infinite scope for health teaching. In addition, propaganda is used as occasion arises and during the year numerous leaflets, posters and booklets have been distributed from the clinic.

The happy relationship established with the staffs of hospitals in the area allows of continuity of treatment when persons are discharged from hospital and come under the care of midwives, district nurses, health visitors, home helps or mental health workers.

As part of their arrangements for Care and After-Care, the County Health Committee have authorised that arrangements be made for Convalescent Home Accommodation. During 1956, ten adult persons were admitted from Bacup to convalescent homes. For this service also applicants are required to contribute according to their means.

## WORK CARRIED OUT BY TUBERCULOSIS HEALTH VISITOR DURING 1956

During the year the chest clinic operated from Rossendale General Hospital, where improved facilities were provided for patients. Specialized Health Visitors in full co-operation with the chest physician continue to supervise patients in their homes.

Articles of sick room and after-care equipment are stored at convenient centres and are available on loan from district nurses and tuberculosis health visitors.

## Ambulance Service

As regards the total number of cases conveyed and mileage covered, the 1956 figures show a continued increase over the previous year. The new Station served not only Bacup, but also the adjoining districts of Rawtenstall and Haslingden. The following table shows the work done by the Bacup Ambulance Station :-

No. of Vehicles 1956		Cases removed during 1956 and mileage involved			
Ambulances	Cars	Emergency Cases dealt with	Non-Emergency Cases dealt with	Total	
				No.	Mileage
6	3	1374	29688	31062	217636

This mileage includes the transport of 4747 welfare cases etc., not included under the other headings.

## Mental Health Service

By virtue of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Divisional Health Committee is responsible for the ascertainment of mental ill health and mental deficiency, for the community care of mental defectives by statutory supervision or guardianship, and the provision of after-care for persons who have undergone treatment for mental illness. The duties relating to the above service are undertaken on a divisional basis by Mr. E. B. Williams, who functions as duly authorised officer and Mrs. E. B. Burns, the Mental Health Worker who has special responsibilities in regard to mental defectives.

There is no Occupation Centre for mental defectives within the Division, but by arrangement with Health Division 12, mental defectives from Bacup attend Stubbins Occupation Centre near Ramsbottom.

## School Health Services

Local co-ordination between the School Health Service and the other health services of the County Council is secured by reason of the fact that your Medical Officer of Health, in his capacity of Divisional Medical Officer, is required to undertake duties as Senior School Medical Officer within his division including Bacup. Close integration in the field is achieved also since the Bacup health visitors also act as school nurses, so that continuous contact with and supervision of children can be maintained from birth to the end of school life.

## Laboratory Facilities

The bacteriological examination of milk, water and ice cream is now carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester, and this laboratory may also be used for the examination of specimens of faeces, urine, sputum, throat swabs, blood, etc. The laboratory attached to Birch Hill, Bury General and other local hospitals, continue to carry out bio-chemical and other examinations for general practitioners.

## Clinic Sessions and Health Staff, Bacup.

In Appendix B will be found two tables which give detailed information about sessions held at the Bacup Clinic and members of the Divisional Health Staff working in the Bacup area.

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### SECTION III

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The notifications of the various infectious diseases totalled 92 as against 505 the previous year, and an average of 287 during the five years 1950 - 1954. The following table provides some comparative figures from which it will be seen that the fall is almost entirely due to the reduction in measles incidence. This is mentioned below. Under the heading 'Other Diseases' there was one case of Puerperal Pyrexia. The remainder were cases of dysentery.

	1956	1955	Average 5 years 1950-54
Scarlet Fever	3	21	13.6
Measles	22	447	187.8
Whooping Cough	13	20	53.5
Tuberculosis	17	10	12.8
Pneumonia	6	8	9.6
Other diseases	31	6	7.6
	92	505	287

Further figures will be found in Table VIII, Appendix C.

#### Measles

It is now well-known that measles has a two year cycle of epidemicity. A large outbreak occurred during 1955. It followed, therefore, that 1956 should have a low incidence. This was, in fact, the case.

#### Whooping Cough

This illness continued in sporadic form throughout the year. The trend is happily a downward one and this must in no small measure be attributed to whooping cough immunisation scheme. The combined method of immunisation against this disease and against diphtheria is proving to be a popular one. The cases during 1956 were mild and no deaths occurred.

#### Diphtheria

For the ninth year in succession there has been no diphtheria in Bacup. I have written in the past about the dangers of relaxation in the community attitude to this disease and to immunisation. I make no apology for doing so again. A high rate of protection is necessary and every effort must be continued to achieve it.

#### Tuberculosis

There were 17 cases of tuberculosis notified as against 10 in the previous year, and an average of 12 during the five years 1950 - 1954. Of these 17 cases, 16 were pulmonary and one non-pulmonary. During the year there were four deaths 2 due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The mortality rate of respiratory tuberculosis for England and Wales as a whole has shown a fairly steady decline over the past 50 years and reference to Table IV, Appendix A, shows that in Bacup the mortality from this diseases has followed a similar course.

During the year the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visited the town. A detailed result of the survey will be submitted when this is available. It can be said here that the attendance was disappointing. It was apparent that the same enlightened and community conscious persons were re-attending while many who had not been recently x-rayed - perhaps some had never been investigated - adopted the "ostrich" attitude which is of little value to themselves, their families in particular, or the public in general. Such an attitude is barely understandable but certainly not acceptable and must be countered by education and to a lesser degree by example.

### Poliomyelitis

There were no cases during 1956. Immunisation was made available for the first time during the year. Supplies of vaccine were limited and its use was confined to specified age groups. There was a certain reluctance on the part of many parents to "take the risk". 2015 children were eligible for registration. Consent was given in 761 cases (33%). At the time of writing that risk has been proved to be negligible and this is becoming widely recognised.

### Dysentery

My only comment about this and other food borne infections is that I do not believe the figures available. I am certain that many cases are not notified and this conclusion, together with my views on the importance of prompt notification, has been conveyed to those concerned.

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Public Health Department,  
Stubbylee Hall,  
BACUP.

July, 1957.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of Bacup.

---

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the report on the sanitary inspection and environmental conditions within the Borough for the year 1956.

Duties connected with the inspection of meat continued to exercise the attention of the Department and all the animals slaughtered within the Borough were inspected, although much overtime work was necessary in connection with this service, and staff problems added to the difficulties encountered.

Some progress was made during the year in respect of Slum Clearance and a number of Clearance Areas were represented and later confirmed. Much work in this connection still remains to be done but progress is of necessity slow, due to the difficult nature of the sites upon which the older houses are built and the financial cost of the erection of new houses.

Routine inspections of the various premises were carried out as reported in the text of the report and I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council, the Chairman of the Health Committee and all its members for their interest and support.

I also desire to thank the Medical Officer of Health for his guidance and advice, and the staff of the Health Department for their loyal and willing service.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

R. HAWORTH.

Chief Public Health Inspector.



## SECTION IV

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

#### (A) SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA

##### Water Supply

The main supply of water to the town is satisfactory, being provided by the Borough of Bacup Water Undertaking and a large percentage of the domestic properties enjoy a supply of water which is wholly sufficient and excellent in quality.

The whole of the water supplied by this undertaking is filtered and chlorinated, and is collected from the upland surface gathering ground and stored in three main reservoirs at Cragg, Cowpe and Sheephouse.

Nineteen samples of the town's water were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. All proved satisfactory.

Sixteen samples were submitted for chemical analysis and sixteen proved satisfactory.

The number of dwelling houses supplied from the public mains is 6599.

##### River and Streams

The Mersey River Board is the controlling authority for the main river in the Borough, and the Local Authority is responsible for the streams and the portion of the Irwell which joins on to the main river.

The river Irwell is used in connection with the Local Industries and widely used for trade effluents.

##### Public Cleansing

The household refuse collection service is maintained on a weekly basis from all houses in the town, and approximately 7,000 dustbins are emptied weekly by the three side loading freighters each manned by a driver and four loaders.

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping at the two tips at Sharneyford and Blackwood, and the Council have in operation a salvage scheme.

Street cleansing is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor, and gully emptying is done by modern mechanical means.

One hundred and eighteen pail closets are emptied each week.

##### Closet Accommodation

The closet accommodation in the Borough consists mainly of fresh water closets, there being approximately 4,667 of these, and gradual abolition of the waste water closets is encouraged by the grants made by the Health Committee in respect of conversions. Details of the closets other than fresh water closets are given in Table X, Appendix D.

Many of the back-to-back type houses have joint W.C., accommodation and this type of house would be greatly improved if separate indoor sanitary accommodation could be provided.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs

Hydrogen Cyanide is used in connection with the disinfection of household goods when transfers are made from infested property to Council Houses, and others are treated with D.D.T. Solution and Spray.

These methods proved effective particularly if a follow up spraying was performed and the advice given to tenants was acted upon.

## Atmospheric Pollution

Little trouble was experienced during the year by atmospheric pollution from smoke.

Many of the local industries are using electrically driven machinery to a great extent and it would seem that this is already having its effect on the amount of atmospheric pollution by smoke from steam raising plants. Much still remains to be done with regard to the atmospheric pollution caused by domestic chimneys, and smokeless fuels and improvement in the design of domestic fireplaces will no doubt aid progress in this direction.

## Rag Flock

One licence to manufacture Rag Flock and one licence to store Rag Flock was in operation during the year, although the manufacturer of Rag Flock did not operate during the year.

The firm storing Rag Flock submitted many samples on their own account with satisfactory results.

## Rodent Control

This work is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Council's sewers were treated on two occasions.

During the first treatment, carried out in May, 464 manholes were treated and 132 showed a prebait take, and as a result 332 poison baits were laid.

The second maintenance treatment carried out in November necessitated the treatment of 295 manholes and 79 showed a prebait take.

In addition to this 25 business premises, 64 dwelling houses and 14 local authority properties were treated.

## Swimming Baths

The Council own and administer the Public Baths which are situated in the centre of the town.

The new modern filtration and chlorination plant which was installed during 1950 has led to greatly improved conditions from a public health point of view, and the public no doubt have now excellent conditions for bathing.

## Factories

The sanitary accommodation in most of the factories within the district is reasonable in standard as more firms are realising the necessity of modern conveniences, and recognise this as one of the necessities for attracting labour.

Table XI, Appendix D gives a summary of the inspections made and details of the results.



## Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Many of the owners of small cottage property still complain bitterly that the rents received do not allow for the increased cost of building materials and labour, and the efforts required to enforce statutory notices and informal notices requiring repairs, remains a major problem in the department.

This problem is one which is not easy of solution and although no relaxation can be condoned, the economic difficulties of the owners of small cottage property obviously present themselves.

The statement in Table IX, Appendix D, shows the number and nature of the inspections made.

### (B) HOUSING

The building of new houses continues and new sites are in the course of preparation and completion. The housing problem is one which requires constant attention, and whilst every endeavour is made to keep the old houses weather proof, and in a reasonable state of repair, the work done is often not sufficient to render the old houses in all respects fit for habitation. In addition, the lack of amenities in numerous back-to-back houses is a matter of serious concern.

The Council proceeded with the building of new houses, 10 being completed by the Local Authority, and more houses will shortly be ready for occupation.

It is difficult to assess the extent of overcrowding in the Borough in the absence of a proper survey, but it is known that some overcrowding exists.

Table XII, Appendix D, gives details of the new houses provided and also the action taken with regard to unfit dwellinghouses.

The Health Committee saw fit to make Closing Orders in respect of houses which were unfit for habitation and are therefore getting rid of the worst living conditions in the Borough.

### (C) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

#### Milk Supply

The responsibility for the supervision of farms and the production of milk having passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the main duty of the Local Authority was in connection with distributors of milk, and the registration of milk distributors, dairies or milk shops.

#### Food Hygiene

Routine visits were made during the year to the premises in the Borough where ice cream is manufactured and the 65 premises where ice cream is sold by retail only.

The bulk of the ice cream which is sold in the town is manufactured by persons who have premises outside the Borough and little difficulty was experienced with this commodity. Much of the ice cream sold is now repacked.

There was no case of food poisoning during the year and details of the food condemned and surrendered are given in Table XIV, Appendix D.

#### Slaughterhouses

The Local Authority granted licences in respect of three slaughterhouses within the Borough during 1956, and the three slaughterhouses now appear to be operating satisfactorily.

## Meat Inspection

The operation of the three slaughterhouses above mentioned thrust a heavy burden on the Health Committee and the staff of the Health Department, as it is felt that 100% of the animals slaughtered should be inspected, and in addition the Committee feel that this inspection must be carried out at the time of slaughter in order to be effective.

Every endeavour, therefore, has been made to do this, and details of the animals slaughtered and the offals and meat condemned will be found in Table XV and XVI.

### (D) GENERAL

Petroleum Acts and (Carbide of Calcium) Order.

The licensing of petroleum stores is a duty carried out by the Health Committee and 51 licences are at present in operation for the storage of petroleum spirit or mixture.

Three persons are licenced to keep carbide of calcium.

Hackney Carriages and Driving Licences

During the year 16 Hackney Carriage Licences were issued and 16 licences to drive Hackney Carriages.

Game Dealers Licences

Two licences to deal in game were renewed and issued.

Old Metal Dealers

Two licences were issued to dealers in old metal.

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APPENDIX A  
STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

TABLE 1.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN  
FOR THE YEAR 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH

GROUP CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	1	2
Tuberculosis other forms	0	2	2
Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	3	8
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus	8	1	9
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	7	14
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	1	4	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	24	46
Coronary disease, angina	17	9	26
Hypertension with heart disease	3	4	7
Other heart diseases	32	35	67
Other circulatory diseases	9	3	12
Influenza	1	0	1
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	9	3	12
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	2	0	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	12	26
Motor vehicle accidents	5	0	5
All other accidents	4	5	9
Suicide	0	2	2
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
ALL CAUSES	149	129	278

TABLE II  
INFANTILE MORTALITY - 1956.

Cause of death	Under 1 month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total under 1 year
Pneumonia (Broncho)	1												1
Pneumonia (Aspiration)		1											1
Pneumonia (Primary)			1										1
Asphyxia						1	1						2
Atelectasis of lungs	1												1
Congenital heart disease	1												1
Prematurity	2												2
Cerebral haemorrhage and prematurity	2												2
Toxaemia and Intussusception								1					1
	7	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	12

TABLE III  
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY - 1956.

Cause of death	Under 1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7 to 13 days	14 to 20 days	Total
Pneumonia (Broncho)			1						1
Atelectasis of lungs	1								1
Congenital heart disease			1						1
Prematurity	2								2
Cerebral haemorrhage and prematurity	1					1			2
	4	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	7



TABLE IV.

BACUP M.B. - VITAL STATISTICS

MEAN RATES FOR THE PAST FIFTY YEARS.

MEAN OF 5 YEARS	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION				MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE	
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total (live and still births)	Rates of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births	
							Bacup	Administrative County
1900-1904	23.5	17.6	0.96	0.65	-	-	146	119
1905-1909	21.3	15.4	0.82	0.48	-	-	119	98
1910-1914	19.1	16.3	0.95	0.69	-	-	112	97
1915-1919	14.4	16.9	0.79	1.11	6.32	-	109	89
1920-1924	19.2	14.2	0.69	1.02	4.34	-	84	70
1925-1929	15.7	16.1	0.61	1.27	6.74	-	88	66
1930-1934	14.6	14.2	0.56	1.15	3.87	3.70	61	61
1935-1939	13.2	15.5	0.64	1.91	6.12	5.74	61	52
1940-1944	14.9	14.8	0.46	1.93	2.24	2.15	46	46
1945-1949	18.6	14.1	0.40	1.70	2.41	2.34	45	41
1950-1954	16.18	14.98	0.16	2.28	1.44	1.41	30	32
Year 1955	16.1	14.5	0.05	2.08	NIL	NIL	27	24
Year 1956	16.3	15.3	0.21	2.08	NIL	NIL	40	23

# APPENDIX B

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

TABLE V

Clinic Sessions at the School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup.

	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.
Minor Ailments	9-10.30 a.m.	-	9-12 noon	-	9-10.30 a.m.
Eye Clinic	2-4 p.m. (every second week only)	-	-	-	-
Dental Clinic	9-12 noon	9-12 noon	-	9-12 noon	9-12 noon
Immunisation and Vaccination	-	-	10-30 a.m.	-	-
Child Welfare Clinic	-	-	2-4 p.m.	-	-
Ante-natal and Post natal Clinics	-	-	-	-	2-4 p.m.

TABLE VI

Divisional Health Staff - Bacup Area

Assistant Divisional Medical Officer	Dr. M. A. Feeny, School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup. Tel. Bacup 65
Dental Officer	J. Barcroft, School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup.
Health Visitors and School Nurses	Mrs. E. Garvey. Miss D. Guest.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor	Mrs. M. E. Schofield, Rossendale General Hospital. Tel. Ross. 820
District Nurses	Miss D.L. Cummings, 33, Dale Street. Miss P.M. John, " " " Tel. Bacup 297. Mrs. J. Midgely, Belgrave House, Bankside Lane, Bacup.
Domiciliary Midwives	Miss D.M. Fox, 91, Bankside Lane. Mrs. M. Nicholson, 93, Bankside Lane. Tel. Bacup 349. Tel. Bacup 339.
Warden of Olive Hostel for Old People	Miss Sherry. Tel. Bacup 322.
Bacup Ambulance Station	Station Leader, J.A. Ashforth, Commer- cial St. Stacksteads. Tel. Bacup 728.
Home Help Organiser	Miss I. Crawford, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231.
Divisional Welfare Officer	Mr. J.H. Todd, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231.
Duly Authorised Officer	Mr. E.B. Williams, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231. (Outside office hours Tel. Oldham Main 5488).
Mental Health Worker	Mrs. E.B. Burns, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231.

# APPENDIX C

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

TABLE VII

Cases notified and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1956.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-15	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
25-35	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1
35-45	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
45-55	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	9	7	0	1	1	1	0	2
	16		1		2		2	

TABLE VIII

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Excluding Tuberculosis)

NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED														
	Total Cases all Ages	AGE PERIODS - YEARS												
		Un'r 1	1- 2	2- 3	3- 4	4- 5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 20	20- 35	35- 45	45- 65	65 and over	
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles	22	-	7	1	1	1	10	-	1	1	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough	13	-	3	2	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Pneumonia	6	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Meningococcol Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Polio Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	30	2	1	3	1	1	17	3	1	1	-	-	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gastro Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	75	2	11	7	5	6	33	3	2	4	-	-	2	



# APPENDIX D.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLE IX

#### (1) INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES

Total houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts	210
Total number of inspections made	280
Housing (Consolidation) Regulations	85
Visits after Infectious Diseases	65
Number of houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit	210
Defects found	266
Defects remedied	266
Notices served (Preliminary)	127
Re-inspections re notices served	224
Visits to houses re Closing Orders	22
Visits to houses re Clearance Areas	147

#### (2) PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS

Offensive Trades	3
Markets	18

#### (3) FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Factories	11
Food Premises	9

#### (4) MISCELLANEOUS

Rats and Mice Destruction	142
Shops	9
Drainage	104
Colour tests applied to drains	64
Visits re private water supplies	78
Ice cream shops	6
Food inspections	38
Petroleum stores inspected	28
Public Mortuary	62
Public Sanitary Conveniences	136
Visits re Conversion to closets	15
Visits re disinfection	6
Disinfestation of premises	13
Verminous premises	15
Interviews with owners	342
Cleansing visits	715
Old Metal Dealers	6
Aged and Infirm people	15
Hackney Carriages	11
Food Shops	29
Milk Shops	8
Housing applications	279
Visits re Housing Act (Closing Orders)	21
Visits re Slaughterhouses	837
Visits re Certificates of Disrepair	1
Slaughtermen's Licences	16
Food Preparing Rooms	6
Visits re Improvement Grants	33
Pet Animals Act	10
Houses inspected (Slum Clearance)	29

Visits re National Assistance Act	13
Visits to Game Dealers	2
Milk Licence Renewals	10
Smoke Observations	9
Visits to Boiler Houses	3
Dog Destructor	3
Visits re Nuisance from Ashpit	50
Miscellaneous visits	634

TABLE X

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Type of Closet	Number in 1954	Number in 1955	Converted 1956	Number at end of 1956
Pail Closets	118	118	0	118
Waste Water Closets	348	337	11	326
Privy Middens	3	3	0	3
Total number of closets excluding fresh water closets	469	458	11	447

TABLE XI

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	NUMBER		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 can be enforced by Local Authorities	19	0	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	164	11	5	0
	183	11	5	0

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	19	4	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	19	4	-	1	-

# HOUSING STATISTICS

## TABLE XII

### (a) NUMBER OF NEW DWELLINGS PROVIDED IN BACUP DURING 1956.

(1) By the Borough of Bacup	10
By other bodies and persons	<u>0</u>
	10
	—

### (b) UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES

#### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	210
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	280
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations	85
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	85
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	71
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation	210

#### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their Officers	121
---	-----

#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-

A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
(a)	By owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Act :-	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	168
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices :-	
(a)	By owners	164
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0



C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	
(1)	Number of tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	15
(2)	Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	0
4.	Housing Act, 1936, Part IV -- Overcrowding :-	
A.	Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
B.	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases (exact details of overcrowding -- not known)	0
5.	Housing Act, 1949 :-	
(1)	Number of schemes submitted :-	
	(a) By private individuals	19
	(b) By Local Authority to the Ministry	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses affected	22
B.	(1) Number of schemes finally approved	19
	(2) Number of dwelling houses affected	20
	(3) Number of additional separate dwellings provided	0

#### MILK SUPPLY

TABLE XIII

Supplementary Licences for Distribution of Tuberculin Tested Milk	4
Licences issued to Retail Distributors of "Pasteurised" Milk	4
Licences issued to Retail Distributors of "Sterilised" Milk	70

#### ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES WHICH HAVE BEEN EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR

	No. of Sales	Methylene Blue		T.B. Positive	T.B. Negative	No. of samples		% Unsatisfactory
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Producers Retailers within the area (Raw Milk)	22	16	6	0	22	16	6	27.2%
Pasteurised	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0%

TABLE XIV

## UN SOUND FOOD CONDEMNED - 1956

Beans	28 tins
Peas	89 tins
Salmon	8 tins
Tomato Soup	1 tin
Ham	9 tins
Strawberries	11 tins
Pineapples	45 tins
Tongue	10 tins
Oranges	8 tins
Milk	62 tins
Sardines	1 tin
Tomatoes	3 tins
Grapefruit	3 tins
Corned Beef	17 tins
Fruit Salad	5 tins
Cream	32 tins
Pears	43 tins
Beef Steak	11 tins
Cherries	15 tins
Peaches	6 tins
Mincemeat	1 tin
Spaghetti	1 tin
Chicken Soup	7 tins
Luncheon Meat	9 tins
Kidney	3 tins
Tuna Fish	2 tins
Rice	2 tins
Plums	5 tins
Carrots	1 tin
Crawfish	2 tins
Spam	5 tins
Pilchards	5 tins
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs	43 tins
Cheese	79 packets
Suet	53 packets
Pork Brawn	3 lbs
Fresh fish	6 boxes
Grapes	4 barrels

TOTAL ARTICLES

639

TABLE XV

Details of animals slaughtered and meat and offals condemned.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED

Bulls	Steers	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
11	269	85	308	46	2520	268	3507

DETAILS OF OFFAL CONDEMNED

Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Skirts	Spleens	Stomachs
26	74	8	104	6	7	6
Udders	Intestines	Fats	Plucks	Kidneys	Feet	Tails
7	9	12	5	9	16	4

CARCASE MEAT CONDEMNED

Whole Carcase Beef	...	3
Part Carcase Beef	...	6
Whole Carcase Pork	...	1
Part Carcase Pork	...	1

TABLE XVI

Details of animals inspected and condemned :-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number of animals killed	588	85	46	2520	268
Number inspected	588	85	46	2520	268
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole Carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	76	20	-	26	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	12.9%	23.5%	-	1%	2.3%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole Carcases condemned	3	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	37	19	-	-	10
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.8%	22.4%	-	-	4.1%







